



**BOISE
NATIONAL FOREST
MUSHROOM GUIDE
Elk, Little Queens, Pine Creek and
Trinity Ridge Fire Areas
May 15 – July 14 2014**



Personal Use Permits Available at:

Interagency Visitor Center
1387 S. Vinnell Way
Boise, ID 83709
(208) 373-4007

Mountain Home Ranger District
2180 American Legion Blvd.
Mountain Home, ID 83647
(208) 587-7961

Idaho City Ranger District
Highway 21, Milepost 38.5
Idaho City, ID 83631
(208) 392-6681

Personal Use

- A permit is required for all people, 18 years of age or older, who are gathering mushrooms for personal use.
- Permits are FREE and valid until July 14, 2014
- These permits are required only for picking within the Elk, Little Queens, Pine Creek and Trinity Ridge Fire area (see map).
- Persons gathering for personal use may pick no more than five (5) gallons of mushrooms per day.
- Mushrooms gathered for personal use may not be sold, bartered or given away.
- A Sawtooth free use mushroom permit is required on that portion of the Little Queens fire located on the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Permits are available at the Idaho City Ranger Station, Boise National Forest.

Commercial Use

- There will be no Commercial Use permits issued in 2014.
- Commercial Buyers will NOT be allowed to set up on Forest Service lands

Camping Information

Camping during Personal Use Mushroom Collecting –
– Individuals gathering mushrooms for personal purposes and camping on National Forest lands must follow Boise National Forest rules and regulations on the 2014 Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM).

Camping is not allowed in the closed areas referenced in Special Order #0402-01-54. Refer to the Boise National Forest Web Page for more information.

Things to remember:

- **The season for both Personal Use mushroom picking within the Elk, Little Queens, Pine Creek and Trinity Ridge Fire will be from May 12 – July 14, 2014.**
- Always carry your permit AND identification while harvesting.
- Pick up and pack out your trash and anything else you bring with you, including cigarette butts. Littering brings a minimum fine of \$125 on up to \$5,000.
- Human waste may be disposed of by burying at least 18 inches deep and 300 feet away from any water source or open road.
- Park outside designated campsites and do not block trails, gates, or roads.
- All mushroom pickers have a right to pick in “your” area.
- Mushroom picking is not allowed in Fire closure areas, Research Natural Areas, Developed Recreation Areas and other designated non-harvest areas.

Questions & Answers

Can I use my vehicle off-road to look for mushrooms?

No. Vehicles (including ATVs, 4-wheelers, or motorcycles) are not allowed off of designated open Forest Service Roads and Trails. Refer to the 2014 Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) for open roads and trails for motorized use.

Can I gather mushrooms for personal use elsewhere on the Boise National Forest?

Yes. Personal mushroom picking is allowed outside of the Elk, Little Queens, Pine Creek and Trinity Fire Area and without a permit. However, the same rules apply of no more than five (5) gallons per day and mushrooms cannot be sold, bartered or given away.

Know your mushrooms!

Each year interest grows in harvesting wild mushrooms from National Forests. Proper identification and determination of whether a mushroom is edible is the responsibility of the picker. **Many forest mushroom species are poisonous.** Several guide books are available to assist with identification. Your local library, county extension office, and local Mycological Society are good sources of information. **WHEN IN DOUBT....LEAVE IT IN THE WOODS!**



A Few General Rules to Follow

At least one-third of the mushroom caps on the collection area (of the same species as being collected) should be left intact to release spores.

Do not collect mushrooms from previously harvested areas; leave the rest for spores and food for wildlife.

Minimize the impacts to the actual fungus by not disturbing the ground habitat. Raking or other ground disturbance is prohibited. Use a knife to cut the mushroom to minimize the impact to the fungus.

No commercial collection of truffles is allowed.

Use of net bags to carry mushrooms is recommended, allowing mushrooms to spread their spores for future reproduction.

Archaeological Resource Discoveries: Archeological resources on public lands are protected by federal historic preservation laws such as the Archeological Resources Protection Act and other statutes. The collection, disturbance, or destruction of artifacts on National Forest System lands are prohibited activities. Archeological resources are the material remains of past human life or activities. They may include but are not limited to artifacts such as buildings, structures, machinery, ceramics, bottles, and cans associated with activities like historic mining, logging, and homesteading; and Native American objects such as projectile points ("arrowheads") and rock art. If you encounter artifacts please enjoy the thrill of your discovery, but treat them with respect and leave them where you find them!

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